

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the west than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. Its thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this Journal has been placed upon the lists of the great majority of business men in the western provinces, including Northwest Ontario, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, and the Territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, MAY 3, 1897.

Manitoba.

E. Bernier, general store, St. Agathe has assigned.
W. Boles heavy, Douglas has sold out.
R. S. Thompson, furniture, Glenboro, has sold out to Mathers Bros.
Sirett & Co., general store, Minnedosa, are succeeded by Drummond & Co.
Street & Lyong, blacksmiths, Portage la Prairie have dissolved, each continues alone.
A Gibson grocer Winnipeg, has sold out his wood and fuel business to Harstone, Widdatt & Co. and is also closing his Main Street branch store.
James T. of T. & Persse, Winnipeg, who was stationed to Montreal a month ago by the serious illness of his brother, has returned home.
Lady of the Lake, a new boat of the Lake Winnipeg fleet, was launched at Selkirk recently. The boat was built by Siergowsson Bros., who will also operate it.
Selkirk now has two newspapers. The latest addition is the Journal. Ira Stratton, manager of the company publishing the new paper.
The grocery stock of C. D. Anderson, Winnipeg, is advertised for sale on May 5.

British Columbia's Business Review.

VANCOUVER, B. C., APRIL 26
Business has improved this week. The number of camps fed from the mercantile centres have increased a hundred fold and Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster are prosperous in consequence. There are no involuntary idle men in the province. British Columbia has found a

place for every citizen out of work and places for thousands of Americans besides. The rush to the mining camps on the seaboard is unprecedented. Steamers for the north are loaded every trip with men and supplies. Stage coaches for Lillooet, Alberni and other points tapped by the cities of Vancouver, Westminster and Victoria are packed with prospectors and mining men. But prosperity is not enjoyed by all branches of industry alike, farmers have left their ploughs in large numbers to hunt for rich rocks close to the numerous rivers lakes and streams, and loggers have dropped their woodman's saw and axe to stake claims in the northwest waters along the gulf. In fact a mining mania has taken possession of the Province, and the boom which was to strike here in two years from the spring of 1895 has apparently arrived. There is scarcely a day passes that some 50 or 100 prominent merchants do not board the train for the numerous mining camps. The result of the rush of prospectors to the highlands has in the aggregate been of great value to the province for many magnificent prospects have been staked. Though inexperienced prospectors have made some ridiculous mistakes in locating "mineral in place," some of their properties having turned out nothing more than huge blocks of granite, with not a trace of precious metal, and others have been outcroppings scarcely a dozen feet in depth. In the Harrison Lake country, Westminster district some big strikes have been made of apparently great value and consistency. J. R. Brown's strike of free milling ore on Fire Mountain has been very carefully examined at 80 feet, 600 pounds of rock was taken from the tunnels face and sent to the smelter, the returns showing over \$100 to the ton. The consistency of the vein is partially proved by a foot of gold and copper smelting ore running into it at 80 feet assaying in itself \$93 in gold and copper. In Lillooet the Golden Cache Co., have about completed their road and a contract has been let for their mill, though the mill is not yet working, the stock is selling at \$1.80. The Alpha Bell mine, adjoining the Golden Cache group and containing the identical vein of the Golden Eagle, the company's proved mine, is also looked upon with great favor, a new ledge has been discovered 10 feet wide on the Chief claim very rich in free gold. The Alpha Bell company have chosen a mill site and will erect a mill at Fairview. The Tinhorn is still the talk of the camp, a mill for this property is on its way from San Francisco, it will be the biggest mill and plant ever erected in the province. The company have sold \$25,000 worth of treasury stock and are taking all stock off the market. This mine has been proved for 1,400 feet. A property at Boundry Falls, known as the Boundry Falls mine and owned by Peterboro and Vancouver citizens has created a sensation here this week. The property was bought for a low grade smelting proposition. It ran some \$33 on the surface. A gang of men were put on to work it, at a distance

of about 25 feet a big bag of the rock was sent to Vancouver with the remark from the foreman that "it looked pretty rich, and that the vein, a true fisher, had widened to 4 feet." It was assayed and ran \$115 and \$120 in gold, about half of this quantity being absolutely free milling, while 90 per cent could be saved on the plates of a crusher. A mill will be erected.

Assiniboia.

G. H. Black, stationery; G. W. Pettingell, drugs and The Martin & Lamont Co., Ltd., drugs and stationery of Regina are amalgamating.

Northwestern Ontario.

A company has been incorporated under the laws of Ontario, under the name of the Ottawa Gold Milling and Mining Company, who propose to erect a 50-stamp mill upon the old Dick & Banning water power at Keewatin.

J. B. Lumby, late proprietor of the Glenboro, Man., Gazette, is starting a paper at Wabigoon, to be known as the Wabigoon Star.

Grain and Milling.

Oats advanced 3c at Montreal on April 22, and another fractional gain was made on April 23, to 25 1/2 to 26c in store.

A short time ago, smoking was prohibited by resolution, during business hours, in the Winnipeg grain exchange. This resolution has now been repealed.

Dairy Trade Notes.

Butter declined 3c at Montreal on April 22, for creamery, 18 to 18 3/4c as to quality.

The Brandon creamery have circulars out announcing the price of butter to patrons at 15 cents per pound.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

A new joint east bound tariff on live stock in car loads, from Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Calgary, Macleod and points in the west, to Chicago, Milwaukee and common points, over the Soo line, has been issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway, to come into effect on May 1. The rates are: Cars of 30 feet in length, \$150 for horses, \$140 for cattle, cars of 80 to 88 feet in length, \$160 for horses, \$150 for cattle; stable or palace cars, 36 feet in length, \$174.25 for horses, \$164.25 for cattle.

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